

# FACT SHEET



## **Ace Services Superfund Site Colby, Kansas**

**June 2001**

### **What's Going On?**

The EPA is proposing to amend the Record of Decision (ROD) for the Ace Services Superfund Site, 345 Convesse Avenue, Colby, Kansas. The amended ROD is to address the chromium contaminated ground water at the site.

### **What Happened at Ace Services?**

Ace Services operated a chrome plating facility on its two and a half acres from 1954 to 1990. They applied chrome plating to farm implement parts. Chrome plating wastewater was produced during the operations. It was poured on the ground immediately west of the unnamed tributary to Prairie Dog Creek.

The facility eventually installed concrete retention vats and an evaporation lagoon. These measures were taken to collect the discharged wastewater. The evaporation lagoon was not lined. Chromium contaminated wastewater contaminated the soil, seeped into the ground, and contaminated the ground water.

The site currently includes two buildings, a former plating shop and a former machine shop, an inactive ground water recovery well, and an area of soil and concrete rubble that was placed to fill a former lagoon.

### **Public Meeting and Public Comment Period Announcement**

EPA will hold a public meeting 7 p.m., Monday, July 9, 2001 at the Colby Community Building, 285 East Fifth Street, Colby, Kansas.

The purpose of the meeting is to take written and oral comments on the Proposed Plan for Amendment to the ROD that deals with the clean up of the contaminated ground water from the Ace Services site.

The 30-day comment period opened June 27, 2001 and closes July 27, 2001. You may submit comments to EPA through July 27, 2001.

### **Why's EPA Proposing to Amend the Record of Decision?**

The EPA signed a ROD in May 1999. The ROD called for extraction of contaminated ground water using extracting wells, chemically treating the contaminated ground water, and discharging the treated ground water to the Prairie Dog Creek or to the city's water system for reuse.

The EPA later determined that the contamination plume is larger than originally thought. The remedial action had to be expanded to treat the larger-than-expected plume.

The EPA is now proposing to:

- install additional extraction wells to address a larger contaminated plume,
- use an ion exchange treatment process to clean the ground water, and,
- provide a way to supply drinking water to residences, in the contaminated plume area, that may be affected in the future.

The EPA's final decision will be published in a ROD Amendment. It will include a responsiveness summary, the agency's

response to comments received during the public comment period.

Under the Amendment, five or more extraction well nests will be installed and used with the Public Water Supply Well #8 to reach cleanup goals. An ion exchange treatment process will be used instead of the electrochemical process described in the 1999 ROD.

The existing buildings on the site will be torn down and the contaminated soils under the buildings will be removed. A new building will then be built on the Ace Services property to house the treatment units. This proposal will cost about \$5.1 million to construct.

All work at this site is being done under the Superfund program. The Superfund program was established by Congress to clean up hazardous waste sites.

## **Where Can I Get More Information?**

EPA encourages community members to comment on the Proposed Plan to Amend the ROD for the Ace Services Site and the accompanying documents. The documents are in the Administrative Record File (a single file of all documents about the remedial action). The Administrative Record File is available for public review at the following information repositories, during normal business hours:

**Pioneer Memorial Library**  
**375 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Colby, Kansas**

**EPA Region 7 Docket Room**  
**901 N. 5<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Kansas City, Kansas**

Comments can be submitted at the public meeting, orally or in writing. Written comments (postmarked by July 27, 2001) and questions about the site should be directed to:

**Hattie Thomas, EPA Office of External Programs**  
**901 N. 5<sup>th</sup> St.**  
**Kansas City, Kansas 66101**  
**1-913-551-7003 or Toll-free: 1-800-223-0425**  
**Fax: 1-913-551-7066**  
**E-mail: [thomas.hattie@epa.gov](mailto:thomas.hattie@epa.gov)**